AUTHORS—REVIEWS AND COMMENT BOOKS AND

NEW BOOKS TO COME— A GUIDE FOR READERS

Publishing Activities of the Fall Season-Fewer Books—Some General Remarks— Biography Leads in Interest.

since the beginning of the war in one does not miss; indeed, it is good Europe, the publishers' lists of new cause for rejoicing. books have shown a gradual diminu- The book market appears to have tion in numbers. The total of the adjusted itself to new conditions. It output announced for the fall of this has reassumed a normal tone. The year is smaller than was that for the "war book" does not dominate it as corresponding period in 1915, which, it has done during the last two in its turn, showed a decrease from years. It still continues to be anthe figures for 1914. The movement nounced in vast numbers, but to toward more conservative publish- offset this we have, for instance, the ing, the unwillingness to "gamble." interesting list of new biographies began, it is true, some years before and memoirs, American and forthe outbreak of hostilities-the eign, already published or in course "fewer but better books" movement of publication, and, furthermore, the -but it is undeniable that the war list of sane and sound, thoughtaccelerated that movement, at first ful, well-grounded works on Amerifrom motives of prudence, of watch- can problems instead of the superful waiting, so to speak. It rapidly ficial, half-informed panaceas for all gained momentum, since caution our collective ills put out without proved profitable; and now, with the discrimination a few years ago. We enormous rise in the cost of all the have learned, our reformers in a the correspondent has stepped into "Gallipoli," and "Told in a French Storm" in his native country. The country is prospering; the book night by simply setting it on its Captain X's "Joffre." On account of American ambulances. And there is these governments will see fit, if is ripe. season has opened most promisingly; head. The last two years have taught their authorship John Masefield's Maeterlinck's "The Wrack of the ever, to make public the documents and more careful publishing will cer- us, also, in a memorable phrase, to tainly not be to the detriment of lit- "think internationally," whether it erature. Quite the reverse. And the be for national preparedness or for old belief that a national election is world peace. Our idealism, our faith bad for business has certainly not in the mission of America to the proved true in the book trade thus world, will be all the stronger for an

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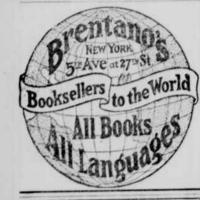
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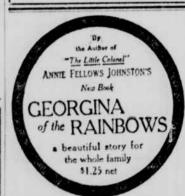
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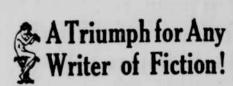
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